

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-08

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FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2306

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USUN NEW YORK 191

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS DURBAN 0377

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PDEV, PINS, SF (TRANSKEI)

SUBJ: OPPOSITION PARTIES FIELD CANDIDATES IN TRANSKEI

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION

REF: DURBAN 337 AND PREVIOUS

1. DESPITE THE RECENT ARRESTS OF THE LEADERSHIP OF THE TRANSKEI'S OPPOSITION DEMOCRATIC PARTY, SIXTY-THREE MEMBERS OF THE HOMELAND'S TWO OPPOSITION PARTIES, THE DEMOCRATIC AND NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTIES, WILL OPPOSE 105 CANDIDATES FROM PARAMOUNT CHIEF KAISER MATANZIMA'S TRANSKEI NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY (TNIP) IN THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS FOR THE TRANSKEI'S FIRST PARLIAMENT. OF THE PARLIAMENT'S 150 SEATS 75 WILL BE AT STAKE IN THIS ELECTION; THE REMAINING 75 WILL BE FILLED BY TRIBAL CHIEFS SERVING EX OFFICIO. THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAD INTENDED TO CONTEST ALL OF THE ELECTED SEATS BUT AT THE CLOSE OF NOMINATIONS CANDIDATES FROM THE TNIP WERE RUNNING UNOPPOSED IN SIXTEEN OF 28 CONSTITUENCIES. THE ARRESTS HAVE ALSO HAD AN INHIBITING AFFECT ON THE OPPOSITION CANDIDATES WHO ARE NOW RELUCTANT TO INDICATE WHETHER THEY SUPPORT THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

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OF HECTOR NCOKAZI (WHO WAS DETAINED JULY 27) OR LONG-TIME

OPPOSITION LEADER KNOWLEDGE GUZANA'S NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY.
TO DATE ONLY MEMBERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAVE BEEN DETAINED.

2. COMMENT: THE RECENT DETENTIONS OF OPPOSITION MEMBERS
ARE CLEARLY AIMED AT THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S VOCAL OPPOSITION
TO INDEPENDENCE. GUZANA HAD LONG AGO INDICATED THAT WHILE HE
OPPOSED INDEPENDENCE HE ACCEPTED IT AS INEVITABLE AND WOULD
CONCENTRATE HIS EFFORTS ON TURNING THE TRANSKEI INTO A TRULY
MULTI-RACIAL STATE.
FARBER

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